

## REMARKS

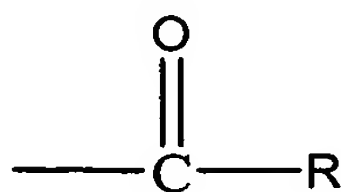
First, Applicants note with appreciation the allowance of Claims 1-4, 6, 7, 9, 11 and 12 as indicated on page 2, numbered paragraph 3 of the Official Action.

Claims 1 and 2 have been amended to insert a period at the end of each claim.

Claims 5 and 8 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Japanese Patent Publication No. JP 6-161111 to Murata et al. (hereinafter referred to as "Murata"). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

According to the Official Action, Murata discloses radiation sensitive resin compositions comprising units derived from styrene substituted with the following groups:

-CH<sub>2</sub>OCOOR and -CH<sub>2</sub>OCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>COOR. The Official Action is apparently referring to the second and fourth listed structures appearing on page 4 of Murata which have styrene substituted with the groups -CH<sub>2</sub>OCOOR<sup>9</sup> and -CH<sub>2</sub>OCH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>COOR<sup>9</sup>. The Official Action refers to these groups as "acyl" groups as recited in the claims. However, the structures disclosed in Murata and relied upon in the Official Action meet the definition of formula (4) of Claim 5 only when the substituent R<sup>4</sup> in that formula is -CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>COOR or -COOR. Although R<sup>4</sup> can be an acyl group, neither of these groups is an "acyl group" as that phrase would be understood by one of ordinary skill in the art. Moreover, an acyl group is defined as follows:



wherein R is an alkyl, alkenyl or alkynyl group {See, for example, McMurry, "Organic Chemistry", Brooks/Cole Publishing Co., Monterey, CA (1984), a copy of which is enclosed}.

Neither of the groups disclosed by Murata and relied upon in the Official Action (*i.e.*, -CH<sub>2</sub>CH<sub>2</sub>COOR or -COOR) meets this definition. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal

of this rejection is respectfully requested.

**CONCLUSION**

In view of the above, Applicants submit that this application is now in condition for allowance and therefore request favorable consideration. If any issues remain which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephonic interview, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Applicants' counsel, Christopher W. Raimund at (202) 861-3896.

Respectfully submitted,

PIPER RUDNICK LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Kelber', is written over a horizontal line.

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